

MINES, MINING, LOCAL STOCKS AND COPPER

INFLUENZA EPIDEMIC EFFECT WILL BE FELT IN PRODUCTION OF COPPER IN THIS DISTRICT

**Thousands of Workers Ill From Disease Means Necessary
Slackening of Output Not Only From Mines but in Other
Parts of Arizona; Labor Shortage Which Was Increased by
Taking of Men for Government Work Elsewhere Will Have
Draft Pyramided on Top of It As Production Deterrent
Factor**

While nothing authoritative has been given out on the subject, there can be no doubt that practically every property in the Warren district will reflect in its October production the ill effects of the Spanish influenza, which for the last three weeks has raged with increasing intensity. The shortage cannot be estimated off-hand, but it is certain to be noticeable.

So prevalent have been the ravages of influenza that many men have been compelled to stay away from work several days at a time on account of it. In many instances this was because they themselves were ill. At other times it was because their families were sick and needed their attention. The dearth of experienced nurses which made itself felt in the epidemic has become more acute latterly.

Even where men were working regularly, in not a few instances, mild forms of the epidemic designated by them as "bad colds" decreased efficiency to a marked extent.

Add to this the effect of the withdrawal of many men for government work elsewhere, has a depressing effect upon ore production.

This situation is not local by any means, every mining camp in Arizona probably will be found to be affected similarly. From Globe-Miami, Jerome and other mining centers, had news connected with the influenza epidemic, with its necessary loss in efficiency, have been reaching Bisbee.

Th September production of Arizona mines reached a trifle over seventy-eight and a half million pounds, showing a decrease of almost three million pounds from the previous month of August. But one large producer in the state, the Calumet & Arizona company showed material gain, making almost half a million pounds more metal in September than in August. United Verde Extension was another which showed no loss, due, probably, to the fact that its new smelter was only beginning to reach the stage of efficient production.

The climax in the present labor situation is seen in the fact that the calling of class-one men in the new draft is expected to be started early next month.

Promises of some degree of alleviation is seen in the published report that there has been reached practical agreement between the managers of the principal southern Arizona mines and the southern exemption board under which it has been settled that every man who works in or around a mine is engaged in a war and essential industry. It is understood, however, that the men are not to have exemption in bulk, but that a separate exemption claim must be presented for each. There is a different consideration of smeltermen, who, save of the expert class, are likely to be left to the ordinary operations of the draft.

Due to stocks of ore ahead in the bedding plants and bins at the beginning of September, the full loss caused by decreased labor was not shown in the September results. They were carried forward into the present month.

Some relief in labor has been coming about through the voluntary return of some of the workmen who registered for distant jobs and did not find conditions as agreeable as those in the mining districts. However, it is not likely that the October output will be as large as September, inasmuch as losses sustained in the latter month and the breaking in of new help cannot be wholly overcome in so short a time without regard to other deterrents.

CONDITIONS ARE BETTERED MUCH AROUND LAKES

**Labor Situation Improving
and Ore Output Likely to
Show Gain Until Next
Spring at Least**

CALUMET, Mich., Oct. 26.—Ton-nages, the barometer of the Lake labor problem, indicate during the past week that the output of workmen has temporarily ceased and from now on, until spring at least, increased outputs are looked for by the big producers. The closing of the smaller properties in Ontonagon county, the shut down at New Arcadian and New Baltic and the cessation of operations at other development mines are contributing toward the forces of the bigger companies while the higher wages that went into effect have tended to bring a considerable number of skilled men back to the district.

An illustration of the inroads made into the mining companies' forces during the past six months is the statement that on Detroit plant alone is employing 2000 copper country men.

Mass has curtailed operations, due to the labor shortage and now is operating only one shift.

Franklin is shipping about 70 tons of rock a day from No. 2 shaft, practically all of its rock being hoisted from No. 1. There is no material change in the physical condition of the mine but it is expected that a mill test on rock from No. 2 will reveal some exceptional values.

Michigan is again sending rock to

GOLD CONSERVATION DICTATES PLAN OF DEMANDING LICENSE

**IN ORDER TO CONSERVE IT FOR
USE IN COINAGE MANUFACTURING
JEWELERS MUST FIRST OBTAIN
LICENSES**

OATMAN, Ariz., Oct. 26.—Dr. Charles A. L. Gehrman, president of the Record Lode Mining company, write from Washington, D. C., that he is in the nation's capital doing what he can to help the gold interests which seek government relief. He expresses the belief that the greater demands for gold during the coming year will hasten federal aid, but doubts if anything substantial will be done immediately. The first step of any importance was taken when gold was put under a license. The following was taken from the Washington Post:

"To conserve gold for essential monetary purposes, the government yesterday forbade issuance of gold bullion from the mints at Philadelphia, Denver and San Francisco and from the New York assay office without license from the war industries board or the secretary of the treasury."

"Raymond T. Baker's instructions will virtually shut down on the use of gold except for purposes covered by regulations now being drafted. Manufacture of jewelry and use of gold for other arts and crafts purposes will be curtailed to increase the supply of war-time credit."

"Manufacturers desiring to obtain gold for use within the United States or its possession may apply for license to the war industries board. Applications for gold to be exported must go to the federal reserve board and in other special cases Secretary McAdoo will exercise jurisdiction."

BRITISH GIVE GOOD CARE TO THEIR WOUNDED FIGHTERS



British soldier being taken into advance dressing station and wounded British and German soldiers waiting to be placed in ambulances.

Great Britain makes every effort, as do the other allies, to give its wounded soldiers prompt attention on the battlefield. Dressing stations are established just behind the zone of fire, sometimes in ruined buildings, and first aid attention is given the wounded.

The upper picture shows a wounded British soldier being carried into a dressing station. The lower photo shows a group of British and German prisoners waiting to be taken to a field dressing station.

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COPPER CHIEF NOW CLOSED FOR PERIOD OF THE GREAT WAR

**BECAUSE OF HIGH COSTS AND
DIFFICULTY OF SECURING MA-
TERIAL, HAYDEN DEVELOP-
MENT COMPANY DECIDES TO
SUSPEND OPERATIONS**

JEROME, Ariz., Oct. 25.—Because of high costs and the difficulty of securing material, the Hayden Development company, the is planning to suspend operations at the Copper Chief mine for the period of the war. The mill is still operating and probably the ore that is broken down will not be cleaned up till the end of this month. Then the plant will be put in shape for a period of inactivity.

Most of the miners have already been laid off and at present only about 25 men are working at the Copper Chief.

"Costs have mounted to such a height that we simply cannot operate a gold mine at a profit," explained Superintendent J. T. Matson this morning. "Therefore the Hayden company has decided not to attempt to do anything till after the year. The mine itself, though, is better than it ever was. Recent operations have disclosed some unusually rich ore in the upper levels. For a long time we have been treating only the best ore as we would have lost money by handling the low grade material."

One of the after-war possibilities is a new mill. Recently the Hayden company installed a one-ton experimental mill using a combination acid and cyanide process. That plant has been running about two months now and the experiment has been a great success. When the Hayden company resumes it may be with a big mill using this process. The old mill is a cyanide plant of 100 tons daily capacity.

ARIZONA COMMERCIAL DIVIDEND
The Arizona Commercial company has declared a quarterly dividend of 50 cents a share payable October 31 to holders of record October 19. This is the same rate paid since April, 1917.

VERDE EXTENSION TUNNEL WILL BE IN USE IN MARCH

**Twelve Thousand Foot Work-
ing Now Being Pushed for
All It Is Worth and With
Good Progress Recorded**

JEROME, Ariz., Oct. 25.—It is not improbable that the 12,000 foot United Verde Extension tunnel will be in use by next March. Latterly good progress has been had on the four headings and less than 400 feet of driving is to be done between the main heading, from the surface, and the east heading from the Texas shaft.

The west Texas heading has passed the Dundee and is progressing in better ground and without any special increase in the quantity of water encountered, though there is no assurance that another water seam may not be encountered, such as which drained the Dundee. This would be of little importance, however, after the portal heading is broken through, giving gravity drainage, instead of pumping through the Texas.

By spring the smelter at Verde will have capacity for over 1000 tons a day, and great holdings of sulphide, running from 10 to 15 per cent copper, are ready in the mine for the cheap transportation that the tunnel will afford. The Verde blast furnace is turning out more than 4,000,000 pounds of copper a month.

Dundee has resumed sinking, with a dry shaft, and now is down to about 600 feet, on the way to the 960 mark, from which a connecting drift is to be run to the Extension tunnel.

Douglas: Ore and concentrates imported last month from Sonora through Douglas aggregated a Mexican gold value of \$2,235,000. Most of the value was in concentrates from the Moretuma mill at Nacozari. The Estrella shipped 44 carloads and the Tigre 11 carloads.

ALLIED LEADERS HAVE SUPREME DISDAIN OF SHELL-FIRE'S TERROR

**KING ALBERT AND PREMIER
CLEMENTEAU CONVERSE
WHILE SHELLS BURST ALL
AROUND THEM, EXCITING SOL-
DIERS' ADMIRATION**

LONDON, Oct. 26.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press).—King Albert of Belgium and Premier Clemenceau of France were apparently so indifferent to shell fire to which they were exposed while the premier was visiting the Belgian front recently as to arouse the admiration of the Belgian soldiers.

One of them describes the incident thus: "The scene is laid among the ruins of a part of the Belgian front day shattered by shells, bombs, or aerial torpedoes. In the street parallel to the church a little group of persons are walking. A tall khaki figure seems to be guiding a civilian and some French officers. It is a Belgian general wandering leisurely up and down answering questions and giving explanations to his guests. From our dugout we soldiers watch with curiosity."

"Suddenly a whistle, an explosion and a burst of smoke but thirty yards from the visitors. Not one of them took any notice. Another. It falls quite near. The Belgian general, the civilian and their suite have not turned their heads, merely continue their walk as slowly as before. While the fire continues, the visitors are getting nearer our dugout and we stand at attention."

"The Belgian general is King Albert, the civilian M. Clemenceau."

FOOD PRICES SOAR.

STOCKHOLM, Oct. 26.—Restaurant prices have reached such proportions that only very wealthy people can afford to eat in the restaurants of the better class, and even in second and third-class places it is difficult to eat properly at a price within the reach of the person of modest means. The authorities have been an investigation and may regulate them.

The Gage's Nybeter publishes a list of the profits of 21 restaurants for 1914 and for last year showing increases running from 75 to 200 per cent.

Epidemic Adjusts Itself By Decreasing Both Output And Consumption of Metal

INFLUENZA RAVAGES HAVE BEEN MORE THAN OFFSET BY THE CUT IN THE USE OF COPPER IS BELIEF OF BOSTON FINANCIAL NEWS; SAYS COPPER CONFERENCE DUE TO HAVE BEEN HELD FRIDAY WAS THE CHIEF CONSIDERATION OF PRODUCERS IN COUNTRY AT THIS TIME AS IT MAY BRING HIGHER PRICE IN NEAR FUTURE AND WILL AFFECT NEW PRICES TO BE FIXED EARLY NEXT MONTH

The epidemic of influenza which is raging throughout the country has an appreciable effect upon copper production but at the same time this has been offset by the cut in consumption occasioned by the same conditions. The effect of the epidemic has been felt in the manufacturing industry on the same scale and reports from the plants show that the slackening tendency has been about equal with that in producing lines. There is no shortage of copper looked for as the result of the epidemic but this branch of the war program will suffer a setback, says the Boston Financial News.

The chief consideration in the copper industry is the conference with the War Industries Board which has been set for Oct. 25. The purpose of this gathering is to permit the producers to submit data upon which the price of copper after Nov. 1 will be fixed.

Though costs of production continue to mount, there is less agitation than heretofore for an advance in the fixed price. Some of the high cost producers adhere to the stand that they are entitled to a higher figure and that the additional profits according to the low cost producers would be offset by the excess profits tax. The agitation for two prices has to all appearances been abandoned.

The labor situation continues decidedly unsatisfactory. This condition, together with the influenza epidemic has caused the producers to look for little if any gain in October over the production in September.

There is but a moderate inquiry for metal at present. It is believed that consumers are holding off pending the decision of the War Industries board on the fixed price. As soon as the decision of the War Industries board is announced, it is expected that buying will show a marked increase. In the meantime, all efforts are being made to maintain production at a high rate.

TILLIE STARBUCK IN PRODUCING CLASS IS WORD FROM JEROME

**PROPERTY PROVES UP TO HOPES
AND EXPECTATIONS OF ITS
MANAGER-PROMOTER AND IS
EXPECTED SOON TO COM-
MENCE PAYING DIVIDENDS**

JEROME, Ariz., Oct. 25.—After a stay of several days in the district, Major A. J. Pickrell, who was managing director of the United States Extension at the time the big strike was made, left today for Prescott. He expressed himself as highly gratified with everything that he observed at both mine and smelter.

Major Pickrell's home is now on the coast but he is devoting much of his time to the Tillie Starbuck property, three miles south of Senator, which he hopes soon to bring to the dividend-paying stage.

The Tillie Starbuck company was incorporated with 125,000 shares, par value \$1. Major Pickrell and his friends subscribed for 50,000 shares at par. With \$15,000 of that money over a mile of road has been built, patent surveys have been made and patent secured, and the main tunnel has been driven in 1000 feet. The company has \$35,000 in the treasury and the gold-silver ore block-out is worth more than the entire capitalization.

At the present time the face of the tunnel is only 40 feet from the point where it is expected to cut the second great outcrop. There are ore body may be much larger and richer. That so far opened averages between \$30 and \$40 a ton.

Production will be commenced at an early date, according to Major Pickrell, and he feels sure that soon after production begins the Tillie Starbuck will be on a steady dividend paying basis.

EXCELLENT PROFIT WOLVERINE COMPANY CONTINUES TO MAKE

Wolverine & Arizona company reports continued profits on a comparatively small amount of ore shipped to the smelter.

Shipments of ore, at the rate of 1000 tons a month are made, coming from the Broken Promise claim, at a point between the second and third levels.

This property comprising in all but 60 acres, was organized at the time of the Bisbee boom. Unlike some others which fell by the wayside, Wolverine & Arizona has maintained its corporate existence and has paid dividends at irregular intervals. The company now has approximately \$140,000 in the treasury.

ANACONDA BUYS INSPIRATION COMPANY SHARES

**Investment of Great Company
in Stocks Gives It Substan-
tial Recommendation; Is
Strong Financially**

The best recommendation which can be given the stock of the Inspiration Consolidated is the investment which the Anaconda has made in the company. To the close of last year the big company had bought a total of 250,000 shares and it is understood that additional purchases have been made during the current year. That such purchases have been made purely for the stability of the issue as an investment is shown by the denial of the Anaconda officials recently that there was no possibility of a consolidation taking place. Furthermore there would be no advantage in putting the two properties together as they are in no way correlated on the operating end.

Despite the high price which has prevailed for copper the management of the Inspiration has not pursued the policy of taking out the richest ores to take advantage of the high price but has been regulating the ore that go to the smelter that the yield per ton shall not be above 20 pounds. This policy will not only prolong the life of the mine but will also give an evenness to the operations so that the production will come along at a regular rate. It will also tend to regulate the cost of production at an even figure from year to year, and thus Inspiration should remain one of the lowest cost producers in the country. The discovery which the New Cornelia Copper company has made in the treatment of its oxide ores opens the way for the Inspiration to treat its oxide deposits and removes what had been heretofore an uncertainty.

Like all the other copper companies, Inspiration is having difficulty in securing sufficient labor but with the passing of the war this adversity will also pass. The production is now running at about 1,000,000 pounds per month under capacity but in spite of this it is safe to say that the \$8 dividend paid this year will be substantially earned. Last year with the production in the second six months at most nil the earnings per share were \$9.35.

The largest surplus of over \$12,000,000 after dividends in 1916, however, warranted the maintenance of the \$2 quarterly rate. With the output now running between 9,000,000 and 10,000,000 pounds per month the current year should show a surplus for the stock equal to at least \$12 per share, or \$4 more than paid to stockholders. And with the previous surplus equal to \$12 per share the current year close with an accumulation after dividends of about \$16 per share. On an \$8 dividend basis and a market price of 55 the yield on the investment is 15 per cent.